



Collection of Columbia debris winding down

▲ **Columbia Investigation:** On April 29, NASA Administrator Sean O’Keefe visited the RLV Hangar for a look at the Columbia debris accumulated during the past 2 months. Shuttle Test Director Steve Altemus (left) briefed him on the status of the identification by the Columbia Reconstruction Project Team. To date, nearly 82,000 items have been delivered to KSC for use in the ongoing mishap investigation. Of those, 74,747 had been identified as of April 28. The final truck delivery is scheduled for May 6.



▲ **Mars Exploration Rovers:** MER-2 lander integration was completed April 24. Integration of the MER-2 entry vehicle (back shell, heat shield, lander and rover assembly) has been ongoing this week. On MER-1, rover installation on the base petal is complete and lander air bag installation was scheduled for this week.

◆ **OA/OODIN IT Expo is coming!** The ODIN/KSC IT Expo “Spring Fling” will be held in the O&C Building’s Mission Briefing Room from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. **today**. *Receive a ‘goodie’ if you wear flowered (Hawaiian-type) apparel.* The EXPO will feature exhibits from our alliance

Mars rovers in final stages of testing, integration

partners including Dell, Hewlett Packard, GTSI, Apple and more. Experience hands-on access to the latest cutting edge technology! Visit the OA/OODIN display for answers to *all* your questions on the ODIN Catalog, Outlook Web Access (OWA), and other ODIN Services. You can also visit the ODIN web site at <http://kscodin/>

◆ **NASA Science** – Nowadays when humans travel to space, it's just a visit. Astronauts stay for weeks or months, then return to Earth. One day, though, whole generations of humans will live there. Some green peas onboard the International Space Station are leading the way by example. Read the full story at http://science.nasa.gov/ppod/y2003/24apr_green generations.htm

◆ **More EEAW winners – Remediation Group** – What is the most common source of groundwater contamination at Kennedy Space Center? The Remediation Group of NASA's Environmental Program Branch would like to thank all those individuals who tried to answer the above question. The correct answer is Trichloroethene (TCE). The winners of the t-shirts were *James Walders* and *Jeff Clark*. TCE, a degreaser, was commonly used for precision cleaning of flight components in the 1960s and 1970s. Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) was a popular incorrect answer. PCBs can be found in transformer oils and in some of the paints of launch support structures, such as the launch umbilical towers from the Apollo program.

◆ **Did You Know? How much white paper did KSC recycle in 2002?** – The two winners for the 8 x 10 bicycle tire frames at the Principal Center for Recycling and Affirmative Procurement table during EEAW week are *Billy McMillan* and *Curtis Byrd*. The answer is 663,717 pounds. Thanks for your support to EEAW!

KSC Countdown is published every Tuesday & Thursday.

Deadlines: 10 a.m. Mondays & Wednesdays. Send information, comments or questions to:

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Find KSC Countdown on the Internet at <http://www-pao.ksc.nasa.gov/kscpao/ksccount/2003.htm>